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Llanelly Rural District Council

Annual Report

of the

Medical Officer of Health

for the

Year ending 31st December, 1953

"Mercury" Offices, Llanelly.

1954.

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PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF

Medical Officer of Health:
E. H. B. HOPKINS, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

Chief Sanitary Inspector:

D. IDWAL TREHARNE, M.R.San.I.
Inspector of Meat and Other Foods.

SANITARY INSPECTORS AND INSPECTORS OF MEAT AND OTHER FOODS:

T. J. BIBBS, M.S.I.A., Inspector of Meat and other Foods.

S. L. MORRIS, M.S.I.A., do. do.

A. V. ROWLANDS, M.S.I.A., do. do.

Chief Clerk:

W. O. G. RODERICK.

Clerks:

D. T. REES.
G. J. C. EVANS.

RODENT OFFICER:

T. L. SADLER.

Llanelly Rural District Council.

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the Year ending 31st December, 1953.

Castle Buildings,
Llanelly,
1954.

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

As directed by the Ministry of Health in a Memorandum to Medical Officers of Health, I have to submit the report of the Sanitary State of the District for the year 1953.

SECTION A : STATISTICS

Population.—The population at the last census (April, 1951) was 37,000. According to the Registrar-General's Report, the population for mid-1953 was 38,510, and this last figure is used as a basis in all Tables, etc., in this Report.

The estimated population shows an increase of 650 persons, as compared with previous mid-year estimate.

No. of Inhabited Houses in 1931 was 7978
No. of Inhabited Houses in 1953 per Rate Book was 10541

The Rateable Value of the district in April, 1953, was £126,035 and the nett product of a penny rate for the year ended 31st March, 1953, was £480 12s. 8d.

BIRTH AND DEATH RATES

					Rates per 1,000 estimated population		
					Llanelly Rural District		England and Wales
					Crude or Actual Rate	Adjusted Rate	
Births :							
Live Births :	Males	Females	Total				
Legitimate	274	250	524	540	14.02 (i)	13.31	15.5
Illegitimate	6	10	16				
Still Births :							
Legitimate	2	7	9	9	0.23	0.21	0.35
Illegitimate	—	—	—		(a) 16.39 (ii)		(a) 22.4
Deaths	222	189	411		10.67 (iii)	11.84	11.4

(a) Rate per 1,000 live and still births.

Corresponding Rates for 1952 : (i) 13.73 (ii) 31.65 (iii) 11.04.

MATERNAL AND INFANT MORTALITY

	Males	Females	Total		Llanelly Rural District: All infants per 1,000 live births	England and Wales
Deaths of Infants under 1 year :						
Legitimate	16	8	24	24	44.44	26.8
Illegitimate	—	—	—			
Deaths of Infants under 4 weeks :						
Legitimate	13	6	19	19	35.19	
Illegitimate	—	—	—			

Year 1953	Maternal Mortality Rate	Infant Mortality per 1,000 live births	Still Birth Rate per 1,000 births	Neonatal Mortality Rate per 1,000 related live births	Illegitimate rate per 1,000 total live births
Llanelly Rural District	Nil	44.44	16.39	35.19	29.6
England and Wales	.76	26.8	22.4	19.7*	54*
Llanelly R.D.C. figures for 1952	1.02	40.38	31.65	26.92	

* 1948 figures.

Net Deaths from stated causes at various ages under 1 year of age.

Cause of Death	Under 1 week	1—2 weeks	2—3 weeks	3—4 weeks	Total under 4 weeks	1—3 months	3—6 months	6—9 months	9—12 months	Total under 1 year
Spina Bifida	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	1
Gastro Enteritis	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	1
Acute Bronchitis	.....	.....	.....	1	1	1	1	.....	.....	3
Atelectasis of Lung	3	.....	.....	.....	3	.....	.....	.....	.....	3
Pneumonia	.....	1	1	1	3	.....	.....	.....	.....	3
Infantile Convulsions	1	.....	.....	.....	1	1	.....	.....	.....	2
Prematurity	9	.....	.....	.....	9	.....	.....	.....	.....	9
White Asphyxia	1	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	1
Cerebral Congestion	.....	1	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	1
Totals	14	2	1	2	19	4	1	.....	.....	24

Though the birth rate was slightly less than that for England and Wales, the infant mortality rate is a good deal higher. This is mainly due to the relatively high Neonatal Mortality Rate. In this group, roughly half the deaths were attributed to prematurtiy, 73.7% of these deaths occurred in the first week. I feel sure that with improved housing, care and after care of mothers and health education in the area, that these figures can be improved upon. I would like to stress to mothers-to-be, the importance of ante-natal care, and urge them to make full use of the clinics provided for their welfare.

SECTION B.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA

Laboratory Facilities

(a) An arrangement is in operation for the bacteriological examination of pathological specimens, milk samples and ice-cream samples, at the Public Health Laboratory, Carmarthen.

(b) Water Analysis.—This work is carried out by Mr. H. J. Evans, B.Sc., F.R.I.C., F.C.S., of the County Analyst's Laboratory, Carmarthen, and by the Public Health Laboratory, Carmarthen.

Part III. of the services of the National Health Service Act, 1946, are administered in the area by the Carmarthen County Council.

The British Red Cross Society has opened a Loan Depot at 1a, Goring Road, Llanelly, where a limited supply of household and sick room appliances are made available. The Depot is open Monday to Friday from 6.30—7.30 p.m. Equipment for home nursing may also be obtained from the Health Department of the Carmarthenshire County Council.

The following tables give details of Child Welfare and Ante-Natal Clinics provided by the County Council :—

Child Welfare Clinics :

Place	Where Held	When Held		Times
Felinfoel	The Aelwyd, Penygaer	Thursdays (fortnightly)		2-4 p.m.
Furnace	Saron Vestry	Wednesdays	,,	2.30-4.30 p.m.
Llangennech	Salem Vestry, Afon Rd.	Tuesdays	,,	2-4.30 p.m.
Llwynhendy	Nazareth Chapel Vestry	Tuesdays	,,	2-4.30 p.m.
Pontyates	Welfare Hall	Wednesdays	,,	2-4 p.m.
Pontyberem	Public Hall	Wednesdays	,,	2.30-4.30 p.m.
Pwll	Salem Chapel Vestry	Wednesdays	,,	2.30-4.30 p.m.
Trimsaran	Workmen's Institute	Tuesdays	,,	2-4 p.m.
Tumble	Welfare Pavilion	Tuesdays	,,	2.30-4.30 p.m.

Ante-natal Clinics

Llangennech	Salem Vestry, Afon Rd.	Wednesdays (weekly)	9.30-12 noon.
Pontyates	Welfare Hall	Wednesdays (weekly)	9.30-12 noon.
Cross Hands	Public Hall	Thursdays (weekly)	10-12 noon.
Llanelly	The Clinic, Goring Rd.	Tuesdays (weekly)	9.30-12 noon, 2-4 p.m.
Ammanford	The Clinic, Ammanford	Thursdays (weekly)	9.30-12 noon.

Chest Clinics

Llanelly	Bay View, Capel Road	Daily	9 a.m.-5 p.m.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

WATER SUPPLY.

Source of Supply.—Llynyfan has a storage capacity at the intake works of approximately 200,000,000 gallons, and the Council are under an obligation to supply 680,000 gallons of water per day as compensation water to the River Towy Fisheries Board by the Llanelly Rural District Water Act, 1912.

The source is a natural reservoir in an isolated mountainous area. The water is subjected to a rapid coarse sand filtration and chlorination. Trout fishing is at present allowed in the reservoir. A report as to the advisability of increased protection of the source and/or increased treatment has been submitted to the Health Committee.

An estimation of the fluorine content of the water showed it to contain 0.02 parts per million.

Absence of fluorine from drinking water is alleged to be associated with a high incidence of dental caries. The optimum concentration in water would appear to be 1 part per million.

This position has been notified to the Chief Dental Officer of the Carmarthen County Council. Experiments are in progress in the U.S.A., and in Britain to assess the effect of correcting fluorine deficiencies in public water supplies. These are being closely followed.

Extensions of water mains were carried out at :—Bancffosfelen Housing Site ; Penybedd, Pembrey ; Maes Tomos No. 2 Site ; Wernbwll, Hendy ; New Site, Ponthenry ; New Housing Site, Genwen ; Penybont/Bryn Cottages, Part.

Total consumption of water for past 10 years as follows :—

1944	641,670,000	gallons.
1945	644,300,000	,,
1946	626,300,000	,,
1947	638,090,000	,,
1948	620,430,000	,,
1949	642,460,000	,,
1950	655,420,000	,,
1951	658,740,000	,,
1952	650,750,000	,,
1953	657,010,000	,,
Total consumption for 10 years	6,435,170,000	,,
Average consumption per annum	643,517,000	,,
The average consumption per annum for Trades and Bulk Supplies purposes during the last 10 years was	379,822,000	,,
So that the average consumption per annum for Domestic purposes was or 786,870 gallons per day.	263,695,000	

The number of houses supplied is 6,353, and taking an average of 4 persons per house, the population supplied would be approximately 28,859. On this basis the average consumption per head per day would be 25.3 gallons approximately. There are also 3,251 houses in the Llanelly Rural Area which receive their water supply from the Llanelly Borough Council, and again taking this at 4 persons per house, a population of 13,004 would be served from this source.

RAINFALL.

I append records of rainfall as measured at Llynyfan Waterworks and Cwmlliedi Waterworks during the year, and am indebted to Mr. D. C. Samuel, your Engineer, and to Mr. A. B. Richards, the Borough Surveyor of Llanelly, for these records :—

1953 Month.	Llynyfan Inches.	No. of Days on which Rain fell.	Cwmlliedi Inches.	No. of Days on which Rain fell
January	3.63	12	2.31	15
February	5.21	16	3.68	16
March	5.98	7	3.25	6
April	7.60	13	3.84	15
May	6.81	11	3.74	10
June	6.17	13	2.14	11
July	9.58	19	7.05	17
August	6.98	17	5.44	18
September	9.45	19	5.95	18
October	6.79	11	3.75	13
November	12.94	17	6.27	19
December	3.47	16	2.01	15
Totals	84.61	172	49.23	173

WATER SUPPLY

The water supply of the area has been satisfactory in quality and the water is not liable to have plumbo solvent action.

Number of Samples taken during the year	8
Number satisfactory	8
Number unsatisfactory	Nil

Private Supplies

Bryndias, Pinged, Pembrey	Satisfactory.
The Brickworks, Trimsaran	Satisfactory.
Tanlan, Pembrey	Unsatisfactory.
Tyrheol, Felinfoel	Satisfactory.
Gellyberaidd, Tycroes	Satisfactory.

RIVERS AND STREAMS

The Dafen River continues to be a matter of concern to my Department in regard to the amount of crude sewage that is discharged into the stream, and work of cleaning the bed of the river has had to be regularly carried out. The Engineer's scheme for the reconstruction of the Sewage Disposal Works at Halfway and in conjunction with improvements to the Sewerage Disposal systems at

Bynea and Llwynhendy districts has been completed, and submitted for the consideration of the Minister of Housing and Local Government, together with Council's application for loan sanction to carry out the works.

I regret that the Department has still to give attention and cleaning to watercourses at Ynyshafren, Ponthenry; Pantygwenith, Five Roads and Bryngwili, Hendy, pending the completion of connecting all houses in these areas to the Council's sewers in the respective areas.

SEWERS

New Sewerage Schemes in course of construction during the year :—Pontyberem ; Llannon ; Cwmgwili ; Cross Hands ; Station Road, Bynea.

Sewerage Schemes completed : Five Roads ; Pendderi, Llwynhendy.

Sewer Extensions : Carmarthen Road, Hendy ; Cwmfelin Road, Bynea ; Four Houses, Black Horse, Hendy ; five houses, Trimsaran ; Drill Hall, Trimsaran.

Closet Accommodation.

Number of open midden privies	Nil
,, of covered midden privies	Nil
,, of pail closets	2902
,, constructed during the year	Nil
,, of W.C.'s	6955
,, constructed during the year	376

Scavenging

Twice weekly collection of house refuse is now carried out almost entirely throughout the area by direct labour with the Council's own vehicles. This on the whole is proving itself satisfactory and adequate.

Sanitary Inspection of the Area.

Total number of inspections made in 1953		6,972
Number of informal notices served		48
*Number complied with wholly	45	
* ,, ,, ,, partially	16	
		61
Number of Statutory notices served		14
*Number complied with wholly	21	
*,, ,, ,, partially	6	
		27

* Inclusive of Notices served in previous years.

Premises and Occupations which can be controlled by Bye-Laws or Regulations.—Inspections were made regularly.

Other Sanitary Conditions requiring Notice.—Nuisances

Twelve nuisances were reported during the year and ten were abated.

Eradication of Bed Bugs and other Vermin

Houses inspected during the year have generally been free from vermin. Action was found necessary in two cases only, for bed bugs. Both cases occurred in private houses.

Eradication of Ants

10 houses were found to be infested with ants and necessitated an average of 4 treatments per house.

Schools.—School kitchens and canteens have been regularly inspected and found to be generally satisfactory.

Rag Flock Act.—No premises in the district.

Disinfection of Clothing.—The attention of the Rural Council was drawn to the need for the provision of an improved and more modern system for the disinfection of clothing, bedding, etc., and a scheme was prepared whereby a new Vapour-gas type disinfector to serve the whole of the area of the Llanelly Health Division might be purchased.

A joint meeting of representatives of the four local authorities subsequently agreed to the scheme in principle, the cost to be borne in proportion to their populations. It is hoped, after confirmation by the four Councils, the disinfector will be installed in Llanelly in 1954.

HOUSING.

1. Inspection of Dwelling-Houses during the year:

(1)	(a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	271
	(b) Number of Inspections for the purpose	1152
(2)	(a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932	44
	(b) Number of Inspections made for the purpose	44

(3) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation 58

2. **Remedy of defects during the year without service of formal Notices:**

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers :

(a) Completed	41	
(b) Partially Completed	16	
	—	57

Action under Statutory Powers during the year:

(a) Proceedings under sections 9, 10, and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936 :

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs ..... Nil.

(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were repaired after service of formal notices :

(a) By Owners	Nil	
(b) By Local Authority in default of Owners	Nil.	
	—	Nil

(b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts :

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied 14

(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :

(a) By Owners—		
Completed	3	
Partially completed	6	
	—	9
(b) By Local Authority in default of Owners		Nil

(c) Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936 :

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made 4

(2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders 2

(3) Number of Closing Orders made under the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1953 5

(4) Number of Undertakings accepted under Section 11 to recondition dwelling houses 2

(d) Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936 :

(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made .... Nil

(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenements or rooms having been rendered fit .... Nil

Factories Acts, 1937-1948.

Number of Factories Registered in area 89

Inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors under above Acts in relation to those Sections enforced by Local Authority 64

Four notices were served under Section 9 of the Factory Act, 1937.

Housing

The number of houses owned by the Council is 1,884, distributed as follows :—

Parish	Built under Housing Act, *1919	Housing Acts, 1930-38	Post War Programme Houses	Pre-fabricated Bungalows	Total
Llanelly Rural	54	†212	364	60	690
Llannon	44	49	100	10	203
Llanedy	36	23	111	10	180
Pembrey	19	†29	267	20	335
Llangennech	—	†56	224	—	280
Pontyberem	40	58	98	—	196
Totals	*193	427	1164	100	1884

*The number of houses of the Parlour type is..... 175
The number of houses of the Non-Parlour type is 18
193

†Two houses were erected in each of these parishes in 1944 for occupation by Agricultural Workers.

21 Licences were granted for private building during the year.

Housing Act, 1949

Applications for grants towards improvement works were received during the year, 13 being approved by the Welsh Office, Ministry of Housing and Local Government for the payment of grants to the value of £2,109. Total value of work to be carried out being £4,981.

Due to the raising of the ceiling for licences for works of repair, renovation and addition to existing dwellings, 1 licence only was issued which exceeded the limit and this was to the value of £788.

Old Military Camps

During the year three families were removed from Pembrey and Llangennech, the huts being demolished immediately after being vacated. It is expected that the remaining families at each of the camps will be re-housed during the coming year.

Housing of Persons Inadequately Housed

In pursuance of powers under Regulation 17 of the Defence (General Regulations), 1939, Circular 2845, 22 houses are still requisitioned and 32 families accommodated therein.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

Registrations.

The number of premises registered in accordance with Section 14 of the Food and Drugs Act, in your district are as follows :—

Butchers Shops	40
Fish and Chip Shops	32
Ice-Cream Manufacturers	5
Ice-Cream Dealers in Pre-packed Ice-Cream	91

Ice-Cream Regulations, 1947.

Samples of Ice-Cream were taken from registered manufacturers and dealers during the year and duly submitted for bacteriological examination and were placed in the following provisional grades.

Grade 1	42
Grade 2	13
Grade 3	6
Grade 4	3

SUMMARY OF FOODSTUFFS CONDEMNED YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1953.

	No.	No. of Containers.	Weight lbs.	ozs.
Meat and Offals			81	8
Bacon			62	4
Tinned Cooked Ham		2	13	10
Tinned Pork Meats		36	30	6
Other Tinned Meats		50	61	11
Meat Pastes, etc.		3	0	15
Tinned Fish		14	7	0
Tinned Vegetable Soups		3	3	0
Tinned Vegetables		56	52	11
Tinned Tomatoes		21	27	6
Tinned Stone Fruits		70	72	15
Tinned Seed Fruits		97	103	10
Dried Fruit			7	0
Fruit Mince Meat		48	43	8
Cheese		21	11	0
Condensed Milk (Tinned)		55	65	4
Evaporated Milk (Tinned)		60	81	2
Dairy Cream		27	10	0
Ice-Cream (Pre-packed Wafer Blocks)	65			
Beverages (Tinned)		1	0	4
Sauces		2	0	9
Cooking Fats			14	0

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949
RODENT CONTROL.

Rodent Control is now carried out under the provisions of the above Act, one full-time operative being employed.

The number of premises treated during the year is as follows :—

Business Premises 22. Private Dwellings 707

Number of rats destroyed as estimated by the prescribed formula of the Ministry 7,055.

All the sewerage systems and sewage disposal works in commission in your area were also tested in accordance with the prescibed method laid down in the Act and were found to be free of any infestation by rats. The refuse tips in your area were periodically treated for infestation by rodents.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS DISEASE

There were no serious epidemics of infectious diseases during the year. The only deaths reported in notifiable diseases were attributed to pneumonia.

Detailed statistics of the incidence of infectious diseases in 1953 and previous years are given in Tables at the end of the report.

A close co-operation was maintained with the Schools Medical Officer when cases of infectious diseases occurred among school-children.

No case of diphtheria has been notified in the district since 1947. The Carmarthenshire County Council are responsible for the arrangements for immunisation against diphtheria and vaccination against small pox. Details of immunisation and vaccinations are as follows:

Immunisation

Llanelly Rural

Ages 0-4 years who completed full primary course	.....	338
Ages 5-15 years who completed full primary course	.....	119
Number who received " Reinforcing " injection	.....	603
Total	.....	1060

Diphtheria in the area has been wiped out. I hope that the mothers of the area will take advantage of the diphtheria immunisation facilities offered, and so help to maintain this state of affairs.

Vaccinations

No separate vaccination figures are available for Llanelly Rural District. For the whole of Carmarthenshire 1,046 successful vaccinations were notified during 1953. 755 of these were in respect of children under 1 year of age and 121 in respect of children between 1 and 5 years of age.

The vaccination figures would appear to indicate that less than half the children of the area are vaccinated. It is important that vaccination figures should be kept as high as possible if the population is to be protected against possibly dangerous epidemics of smallpox.

Tuberculosis

A Table of Tuberculosis notifications and deaths is given at the end of the report. It shows that though there is a marked reduction in the mortality rates, by comparison, the reduction in the notification of new cases is much less. The non-pulmonary Tuberculosis figures over the years show fluctuations, but no reduction trends. The reduction in the Pulmonary Tuberculosis rate during 1953, however, is encouraging. The decline in the death rates from Tuberculosis are attributable to the improved conditions of living,

the use of new drugs and new treatment techniques. The help of the Chest Physician, Mr. J. T. Jones, in assessing the housing needs of Tuberculous patients is gratefully acknowledged. This Council has been generous in dealing with the rehousing of families in which Tuberculosis and Silicosis occur.

The Tuberculosis (South West Wales Attested Area) Order, 1953, aims at the elimination of Tuberculous cattle from the area. We hope that this will have an appreciable effect on the non-pulomnary notification rate.

B.C.G. vaccination of selected Tuberculous contacts, who are exposed to risks of infection, is being carried out in your area by the Chest Physician, under the auspices of the County Council.

Mass Radiography : The Mass Radiography Unit of the Welsh Regional Hospital Board visited Cross Hands, Tumble and Pontyberem in January and February. The attendances were very satisfactory.

Total No. of Persons Examined	2931
Total No. found to be abnormal	675
Percentage	23.03
Definite Respiratory Tuberculosis	5
Percentage	0.17
Needing further observation for Respiratory Tuberculosis	19
Percentage	0.65
Other abnormalities of chest	651
Percentage	22.17

Details of Other Abnormalities :

	Total	Males	Females
Bony Abnormality	35	17	18
Bronchitis and Emphysema	34	27	7
Consolidation of Unknown Cause	4	4	—
Bronchiectasis	8	5	3
Pulmonary Fibrosis	4	4	—
Pneumoconiosis	416	416	—
Basal Fibrosis	36	27	9
Thickened Pleura	9	4	5
Acquired Heart Disease	26	7	19
Abnormality of Diaphragm	11	9	2
Healed Primary Respiratory Tuberculosis	32	11	21
Healed Post Primary Respiratory Tuberculosis	36	13	23
Totals	651	544	107

Public Health Act, 1936, Section 172.—No legal action taken.

National Health Act, 1946, Section 47

Investigations were made under this section in two cases, but no official action was taken.

NUMBER OF INSPECTIONS CARRIED OUT DURING 1953

Public Health Act :

House Inspections	205
House Reinspections	1072
Water Supply	71
Drainage	767
Piggeries	35
Offensive Trades	22
Tents, Vans and Sheds	98
Public Conveniences	129
Places of Entertainment	7
Refuse Collection	334
Refuse Tips	367
Infectious Diseases	127
Disinfection	23
Disinfestation	88
Water Sampling	15

Housing Act :

House Inspections	66
House Reinspections	80
Overcrowding	5
Housing Improvement Grants	128

Food and Drugs Act :

Fried Fish Shops	42
Licensed Premises	39
Butchers Shops	695
Butchers Vans	163
Canteens	42
Fish and Rabbit Vans	9
Food Preparing Premises	9
Grocers Shops	236
Ice-Cream Premises	147
Restaurants	17
Street Vendors and Hawkers Carts	2
Ice-Cream Sampling	67

Other Inspections :

Factories and Workshops	58
Bakehouses	6
Rodent Control.....	104
Slaughterhouses	3
Dairies	80
Housing Application Investigations	552
Miscellaneous	1062
	6972

TABLE No. I.

Number of Notified Cases and Deaths from Diphtheria, Scarlet Fever and Enteric Fever, during last 20 years.

	Diphtheria.		Scarlet Fever		Enteric Fever.	
Year.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.
1933	38	3	33	0	2	0
1934	45	2	82	0	1	0
1935	39	3	101	1	0	0
1936	110	4	68	0	0	0
1937	110	8	47	2	0	0
1938	41	6	41	0	1	0
1939	40	0	33	0	0	0
1940	39	1	21	0	0	0
1941	59	4	16	0	0	0
1942	22	3	21	0	0	0
1943	20	0	48	0	0	0
1944	32	1	75	0	0	0
1945	13	1	75	0	0	0
1946 ...	6	0	42	0	0	0
1947	2	0	25	0	0	0
1948	0	0	75	1	1	0
1949	0	0	25	0	0	0
1950	0	0	30	0	0	0
1951	0	0	15	0	0	0
1952	0	0	29	0	1	0
1953	0	0	20	0	0	0
Total	616	36	922	4	6	—

TABLE No. II.

CAUSES OF DEATH IN LLANELLY RURAL AREA IN 1953.

REGISTRAR—GENERAL'S STATISTICS

Causes of Death.	All Ages. M.	F.	Total.
1. Tuberculosis—Respiratory system	2	5	7
2. Tuberculosis—Other forms	1	1	2
3. Syphilitic Disease	—	—	—
4. Diphtheria	—	—	—
5. Whooping Cough	—	—	—
6. Meningococcal Infections	—	—	—
7. Acute Poliomyelitis	—	—	—
6. Measles	—	—	—
9. Other Infective and Parasitic diseases	—	—	—
10. Malignant Neoplasm, stomach	7	5	12
11. Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus	6	—	6
12. Malignant Neoplasm, Breast	1	7	8
13. Malignant Neoplasm, Uterus	—	—	—
14. Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms	14	15	29
15. Leukaemia, Aleukamia	1	—	1
16. Diabetes	1	1	2
17. Vascular Lesions of Nervous system	17	37	54
18. Coronary Disease, Angina	30	13	43
19. Hypertensions with Heart Disease	2	1	3
20. Other Heart Disease	31	33	64
21. Other Circulatory Disease	13	10	23
22. Influenza	2	—	2
23. Pneumonia	5	7	12
24. Bronchitis	14	12	26
25. Other diseases of respiratory system	26	6	32
26. Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum	5	2	7
27. Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea	2	2	4
28. Nephritis and Nephrosis	2	1	3
29. Hyperplesia of Prostrate	3	—	3
30. Pregnancy, Childbirth and Abortion	—	—	—
31. Congenital Malformation	1	—	1
32. Other defined and ill-defined Diseases	23	28	51
33. Motor Vehicle Accidents	3	—	3
34. All other Accidents	7	1	8
35. Suicide	3	2	5
36. Homicide and Operations of War	—	—	—
All Causes	222	189	411

45.5% of the deaths were due to cardio-vascular diseases. These were mainly diseases associated with the process of growing old. Considerable attention is now being given to this subject, particularly as regards the effects of diet and overfeeding on the condition of the vascular systems. It is known that excessive fat predisposes to many of these conditions.

13.7% of the deaths recorded were due to malignant neoplasms of all types.

It should be emphasised that some of these cancerous conditions which cause death have a very high rate cure if diagnosed early, and I would especially like to mention cancer of the breast and of the skin in this respect.

19.2% of the deaths were due to respiratory diseases including Tuberculosis. Respiratory Tuberculosis accounted for 11% of these deaths.

TABLE No. III.

Table showing the number of Infectious Diseases notified during last six years.

Disease.		1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953
Measles		237	107	193	423	350	43
Whooping Cough		155	20	15	200	37	63
Diphtheria		.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Scarlet Fever		78	25	31	15	29	20
Typhoid Fever (including Paratyphoid)		1	.....	.....	.....	1	.....
Puerperal Pyrexia		.....	.....	.....	.....	2	2
Pneumonia		32	22	34	48	41	34
Other Diseases generally notifiable :—							
Erysipelas		2	5	4	.....	4	2
Other Diseases notifiable locally :—							
Tuberculosis :—							
Pulmonary	Male	19	30	31	22	29	24
	Female	19	16	28	20	22	8
	Total	38	46	59	42	51	32
Non-Pulmonary	Male	8	3	4	8	6	6
	Female	3	5	4	7	6	14
	Total	11	8	8	15	12	20
Ophthalmia Neonatorum		1	.....	1	.....	4	7
Acute Poliomyelitis		2	.....	3	5	2	1
Meningococial Infection		.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....

TABLE No. IV.

Notifiable Diseases during the year 1953.

Disease.		Total Cases Notified.	Cases Admitted to Hospital.	Total Deaths.
Diphtheria		.....	.....	.....
Scarlet Fever		20	3	.....
Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid)		.....	.....	.....
Puerperal Pyrexia		2	.....	.....
Other Puerperal Causes		.....	.....	.....
Pneumonia		34	6	12
Other Diseases generally notifiable :—				
Erysipelas		2	1	.....
Polio-Encephalitis		.....	.....	.....
Ophthalmia Neonatorum		7	1	.....
Cerebro Spinal Fever		.....	.....	.....
Acute Poliomyelitis		1	1	.....
Measles		43	.....	.....
Whooping Cough		63	5	.....
Other Diseases notifiable locally :—				
Tuberculosis :—				
Pulmonary	Male	24	16	2
	Female	8	10	5
	Total	32	26	7
Non-Pulmonary	Male	6	2	1
	Female	14	4	1
	Total	20	6	2

TABLE No. V.

TUBERCULOSIS.

Age Periods.	Deaths Reported.				New Cases Reported.			
	Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.		Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.	
	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.
0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....
5	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....
10	.....	.....	.....	.....	2	.....	1	3
15	.....	.....	.....	.....	2	2	2	2
20	.....	.....	.....	.....	5	.....	.....	2
25	.....	1	.....	.....	5	3	1	1
35	.....	.....	.....	.....	2	.....	.....	1
45	1	.....	1	.....	5	1	1	3
55	1	.....	.....	1	3	1	.....	1
65	.....	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
65 and upwards	.....	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1
	2	5	1	1	24	8	6	14

TUBERCULOSIS

Table showing notifications and number of deaths from Tuberculosis over past 20 years :—

Year	No. of new cases Notified		Rate per 1,000 population		Number of deaths		Rate per 1,000 population	
	Respiratory	Non-Respiratory	Respiratory	Non-Respiratory	Respiratory	Non-Respiratory	Respiratory	Non-Respiratory
1913	40	16	1.3	.5	20	16	.6	.5
1923	70	32	1.8	.9	31	16	.9	.45
1933	39	12	1.0	.3	29	7	.8	.2
1934	68	14	1.8	.4	21	6	.6	.2
1935	59	17	1.6	.5	36	6	.9	.2
1936	52	13	1.4	.4	36	7	.9	.2
1937	59	10	1.6	.3	25	8	.7	.3
1938	35	13	.9	.4	21	3	.6	.09
1951	42	15	1.2	.4	15	1	.4	.03
1952	51	12	1.3	.3	6	2	.15	.05
1953	32	20	.8	.5	7	2	.2	.05

TABLE No. VI.

OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM.

Ophthalmia Neonatorum.	Cases.			Vision Un-Impaired	Vision Impaired	Total Blind-ness.	Deaths
	Notified.	Treated.					
		At Home.	In Hospital.				
	7	6	1	—	—	—	—

TABLE No. VIII.

LLANELLY RURAL SANITARY DISTRICT.

Causes of Death for the past ten years.

	1944	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953
Cancer.....	52	49	51	66	63	59	52	58	62	55
Scarlet Fever	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Diphtheria, including Membraneous Croup	1	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Typhoid Fever	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Puerperal Fever.....	3	.....	3	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	1	.....
Erysipelas	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Measles	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Whooping Cough	3	.....	1	.....	.....	2	.....	.....	.....	.....
Diarrhoea and Dysentery	1	1	3	4	3	1	.....	.....	4	4
Rheumatic Fever	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Phthisis	28	24	23	24	19	25	8	15	6	7
Bronchitis and Pneumonia	26	34	40	38	18	32	38	15	21	38
Cardiovascular Diseases	138	108	158	169	168	152	146	155	184	187
Injuries	20	7	9	23	10	16	19	12	17	11
All other Causes	152	163	148	134	116	110	183	211	123	109
Total	424	387	436	458	398	397	477	466	418	411

TABLE No. IX.

Occupied Dwelling Houses in the Llanelly Rural District for the year ending 31st December, 1953 :—

	Dwelling Houses.	Public Houses.	Farms	Total.
Llanelly Rural Parish.				
Glyn Ward	438	4	49	491
Hengoed Ward	673	5	47	725
Westfa Ward	1066	7	12	1085
Berwick Ward	1310	8	27	1345
Felinfoel Ward	897	6	43	946
Llannon Parish	1177	10	139	1326
Pembrey Parish.				
Pembrey Ward	461	6	32	499
Pwll Ward	476	5	16	497
Trimsaran Ward	631	7	62	700
Llangennech Parish	863	9	27	899
Llanedy Parish.				
Hendy Ward	634	9	40	683
Tycroes Ward	460	2	49	511
Pontyberem Parish	778	6	50	834
	9864	84	593	10541

LLANELLY RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Castle Buildings,
Llanelly.

Private plans approved for the year 1953 are as follows :—

Parish.	New Houses.	Additional Alterations.	Other Buildings.
Llanelly	15	14	38
Llanedy	7	3	6
Pembrey	8	6	16
Llannon	3	4	16
Llangennech	1	3	8
Pontyberem	—	8	10
	36	38	94

W. GRAHAM REES, A.R.I.B.A.,
Surveyor.

Private buildings completed and Certificates of Completion for the above period as follows :—

	New Houses.	Additions and Alterations.	Other Buildings.
Llanelly	25	18	16
Llanedy	3	1	5
Pembrey	1	6	12
Llannon	2	2	5
Llangennech	2	2	2
Pontyberem	1	2	7
	34	31	47

W. GRAHAM REES, A.R.I.B.A.
Surveyor.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

E. H. B. HOPKINS, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.